MTA Subway Hourly Ridership Data

Overview

General Description

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) is a public benefit corporation responsible for public transportation in the state of New York serving 12 counties in southeastern New York, along with two counties in southwestern Connecticut under contract to the Connecticut Department of Transportation, carrying over 5 million passengers on an average weekday system-wide, and over 800,000 vehicles on its seven toll bridges and two tunnels per weekday.

Subway service within New York City is operated by MTA New York City Transit.

This dataset provides **subway ridership**, compiled at the hourly level, by station complex, with OMNY and MetroCard payment methods. These ridership metrics may differ slightly, but are within 1% of ridership figures provided at [public MTA board meetings](). Data is released on a weekly cadence and is subject to revision. You can learn more about OMNY, the contactless fare payment system for public transportation in the New York region [here]().

NOTE: MTA is publishing this dataset within the first phase of our commitment to increase transparency. Under later phases of our Open Data Program, we will be carefully examining all our published and publishable data with view both to providing datasets that can be effectively utilized by our customers and the public at large, and to delivering regular, automated updates to these datasets efficiently and sustainably. Consequently, this dataset may be restructured and/or combined with other similar datasets in the future.

Data Collection Methodology

This dataset captures rider entries made at subway turnstiles by using OMNY and MetroCard taps/swipes. MetroCard data is aggregated from on-premises MTA data servers, while OMNY data is provided by a third-party vendor named Cubic.

Before being released this data undergoes substantial data cleaning; transactions are deduplicated, changes to station layouts are incorporated, and MetroCard swipes collected by partner agencies (PATH, BEELINE, NICE, Roosevelt Island Corporation) are removed from the dataset.

A very small number of MetroCard and OMNY transactions arrive late due to temporary hardware malfunctions. This late-arriving data is incorporated as it is made available, and thus historical data in this dataset is subject to slight adjustments.

Statistical and Analytic Issues

Data is released to the Open Data portal on a multi-day lag to account for late-arriving data.

Limitations of Data Use

There are no limitations on the data at this time.